Middle School Sports Handbook
Basketball/Cheerleading/Cross Country
Lacrosse, Tennis, Volleyball

City of Malibu Parks and Recreation Department
23825 Stuart Ranch Road
Malibu, California 90265
310.456.2489 X363
Fax: 310.456.3356
malibucity.org/sports
Dear Coaches, Parents, & Athletes:

Thank you for participating in this year’s Middle School Sports program. This handbook exists to assist you in understanding the policies and expectations set forth by the City of Malibu Parks and Recreation Department for middle school aged athletes. I encourage you to read through the handbook so you can become more familiar with the program.

Feel free to contact me with any questions you might have. I look forward to working with all of you and thank you very much for your commitment to the City of Malibu’s athletic programs.

Sincerely,

Katie Gallo
Recreation Supervisor
310.456.2489 x363
kgallo@malibucity.org

IMPORTANT CONTACT NUMBERS

City Hall ............................................................................................................. 310.456.2489
Fax ................................................................................................................... 310.456.3356
Katie Gallo (Recreation Supervisor) .......................................................310.456.2489 x363
Malibu Bluffs Park ....................................................................................... 310.317.1364
Malibu High School ..................................................................................... 310.457.6801

RULES, GAME SCHEDULES, AND OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND AT MALIBUCITY.ORG/SPORTS
PROGRAM OFFERINGS

Fall Sports: September - October
Coed Cross Country, Girls Volleyball, Girls Tennis, Cheerleading

Winter Sports: November - February
Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Cheerleading

Spring Sports: March - May
Coed Volleyball, Boys Tennis, Boys Lacrosse

If you are interested in starting a new sport, please contact the
Parks & Recreation Department! 310.456.2489 x363

City of Malibu Youth Sports Philosophy

The **philosophy** of the City of Malibu Parks and Recreation Department is to instill a
positive attitude, sportsmanship, fundamentals, confidence, and high moral standards.
Youth Sports Programs develop the physical, psychological, and social aspects of youth.
Our programs emphasize participation, fun, sportsmanship, and downplay a competitive
approach to sports. Participants, parents, and coaches are expected to support this
philosophy.

We believe in the benefits of participation in organized sports. Participation in sports
has proven to build self-esteem, promote teamwork, develop the body as well as the
mind, and is an integral part of the maturing process. Involvement in youth sports
should promote learning and participation first, and competition second.

Our **mission** is to teach the importance of teamwork, skills and sportsmanship and to
provide a safe, nurturing and fun environment for all children regardless of skill level.

We strive to offer quality sports opportunities to aid in youth development, and fulfill
the recreation interests of the community. Malibu youth sports program affords
children the opportunity to interact with positive adult role models.
Program Goals

1. To promote healthy, physical and safe activities for all players at all times.
2. To teach good, fundamental skills and the rules of each game to all players regardless of ability.
3. To promote a sense of fair play and good sportsmanship at all times, whether winning or losing.
4. To provide a positive experience of what it means to be a member of a team.
5. To provide each player with the opportunity to develop and to improve his or her individual skills at their level of ability throughout the course of the season.
6. To ensure that each player receives equal opportunities to learn and to play at his or her ability level.

PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

As parents you are an important part of your child’s success. In order for your child to get the most out of the game it is important that you follow the parent’s pledge:

I PLEDGE TO...

- Be supportive of my child by giving positive encouragement.
- Display good sportsmanship at all times.
- Let my child play the game for themselves.
- Get involved with the team by asking the coach what they may need help with.
- Respect the referees, scorekeepers and staff.
- Understand the rules and the game.
- Sit back, enjoy the game, and watch my child have FUN!

The City of Malibu has made a commitment to provide quality sport experiences for youth and adults. We feel it is important that children receive the best opportunity to enjoy their recreational experience. Our goal is to provide a safe place for children to learn rules and how to play the game, but most importantly, to have FUN! You must also remember to respect the game. Parents are expected to follow this Code of Ethics Pledge. The City of Malibu has a zero tolerance policy on using bad language or physically assaulting referees, staff members, fans, coaches or players. Any offensive, bad behavior may result in being barred from further participation for up to one year. The game is for the children, so help us provide a positive sport experience for all participants in our leagues.

We encourage parents to participate as much as possible by helping organize, arranging snacks, assistant coaching, or serving as a team parent.
ATHLETE’S CODE OF ETHICS

As an athlete, I understand that it is my responsibility to:

1. Place academic achievement at the highest priority.
2. Show respect for teammates, opponents, and coaches.
3. Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials.
4. Exhibit fair play, good sportsmanship, and proper conduct at all times.
5. Refrain from the use of profanity, and other offensive language and/or gestures.
6. Any display of unsportsmanlike conduct will result in the player being removed from the team.
7. Adhere to the established rules and standards of the game.
8. All players must make an effort to attend all practices and games. Please contact your coach if you are unable to attend.
9. Teams need to pick-up trash, personal items, and equipment used during practices and games.
10. Win with character, lose with dignity.

DRESS CODE

The dress code for the Middle School Sports Program is in accordance with the Malibu High School dress code found in the Student Handbook in Section one. While enrolled in any middle school program athletes must adhere to the following dress policy:

1. Clothing may not disrupt the learning environment.
2. An athlete’s dress and general appearance should not draw attention to the student, nor should dress and appearance detract or interfere with teaching and learning in the program.
3. No clothing will be allowed that defames, degrades or is offensive to a gender, race, color, religious creed, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, age, physical or mental impairment or culture.
4. Clothing may not display any suggestive or objectionable material.
5. Clothing must not advocate unhealthy behavior, dangerous practice, or create a safety problem (includes no graphics/text containing sexual connotations, controlled substances or violence).
6. Appropriate, safe footwear must be worn at all times.
7. If wearing leggings, leotards or tights, fist length shorts, fingertip length shirts, skirts or dresses must be worn over them.
8. Hem of shorts are at fist length when arms are resting at the sides. If volleyball shorts are to be worn, they must be of appropriate length.
9. Tank top straps must be at least 1” in width to cover all under garments.
DRESS CODE CONTINUED

Some examples of inappropriate attire are:

* Exposed stomachs or backs, clothes that are revealing
* Exposed undergarments such as bras, camisoles, slips and boxers, including see through garments
* Spaghetti straps, low-cut tops, strapless clothing, pajamas
* Pants or shorts sagging below hips

This dress code is enforced for the purpose of providing a safe and orderly program for athletes enrolled in the Middle School Sports Program. For a detailed explanation of the Malibu High School dress code go to: 
http://www.malibuhigh.org/academics_student_parent_handbook

WOUND CARE RULE

A player or coach, who is bleeding, has an open wound, or who has blood on them or their clothes shall be prohibited from participating further in the game until appropriate treatment has been administered. The player or coach must immediately leave the playing area to receive medical attention. Though they may be able to play again later, they cannot go back and participate again until the wound is taken care of, bleeding has stopped, and all contaminated equipment has been replaced.

VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT

Youth Basketball is one of many sports that parents are needed to volunteer at to have a successful season. We highly value our volunteers. They are an integral element to the City of Malibu Parks and Recreation Department.

The volunteer program serves the departmental programs, projects, events, community services as well as requests from citizens and organizations year-round.

Below are the areas parents have the opportunity to assist in-

Head Coach
Assistant Coach
Help with Practice
Team E-Mail Coordinator
Snack Assignor
All volunteer coaches are required to submit a background check to the City of Malibu. The City is participating in Operation TLC2 Making Communities Safe program, a volunteer management and background screening program established to ensure the City of Malibu will attain the most qualified volunteers to support the community’s needs. The City has contracted with Southeastern Security Consultants, Inc. (SSCI) to perform the background checks in a secure and private manner. The following information sources will be used as part of the background check and screening program.

1. Social Security Trace – Verifies that the person is who they claim to be.
2. Address Trace – Verifies the person’s most recent addresses.
3. County, State, and National Database Record Search
   -Captures all misdemeanor and felony records.
4. Sex Offender Registry – Record search of all 50 States.

Please contact 310.456.2489 x363 or kgallo@malibucity.org